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A full and true  
RELATION,  
OF THE  
TRIAL  
AND  
CONDEMNATION,  
Of twelve Notorious

Highway-Men,  
Murderers, and Clippers of Money:  
AT THE

ASSIZES

Holden for the  
COUNTY of DERBY,

This present August 1679.

(VIZ.)

Mr. Bracy, Richard Piggen, Roger Brookham, Mr. Gerrat,  
John Barker, Willam Loe, John Roobottom, Thomas Ouldome,  
John Baker, Daniel Buck, Thomas Gillat, and one Smedley.

With the manner of their Behaviour before Execution,  
And several other Remarkable Circumstances.



T hath not been unknown to most persons Travel-  
ling the great Roads of *England*, how they have  
been infested of late with Highway-Men or Rob-  
bers; who have committed several strange Actions  
and Insolencies in their Robberies: till the Di-  
vine Justice and Law hath now brought some of them to re-  
ceive the Rewards of their Crimes and Sins at the County  
Town of *Derby*, at the Assizes there held on the 8th of this  
A Instant

Instant *August* 1679. the particulars of their Actions and Deemeanors are here inserted.

This *Bracy* was a person of good repute, living in the County of *Tork*; but for some time had deserted his own House and Dwelling, betaking himself to live abroad at all places which gave him a safe Protection; being reputed as Captain or Ring-leader of the whole Gang, which consisted of *Richard Piggie* of *Derby*, *Roger Brookshaw* of *Heage*, *Mr. Gerrat*, and one *John Barker*, *William Loe*, *John Roobottom*, *Thomas Ouldome*, *John Baker*, *Daniel Buck*, *Thomas Gillat* and one *Smedley*; all of the same County, who assisted and followed *Mr. Bracy* in the performing these following Murders and Robberies. About 8 Months ago, the said persons taking the advantage of a dark night, and being prepared with Instruments for their purpose, broke open the House of Captain *John Munday* Esquire, near the Town of *Derby*, at a place called *Morton*; where they took away to the value of 1200 pounds in Gold and Silver, besides a great quantity of Plate, binding the Esquire and all his Family in their Beds, and using great insolencies by threats, to make them confess their Treasures, which they obtained and secured at the present. Some two Months after the same Persons meets a Wagon passing betwixt the Mart of *Lenton*, near *Nottingham* and the Town of *Newark* in the same County; in which there were several small Barrels of Money, and others of Gold Lace; which they seized, and securing the Waggoner, with Hatchets and other Instruments, they broke up the Barrel-Heads, taking away the value of eighteen hundred pounds; which they divided, and so dispersed, only *Piggen*, *Buck*, and *Ryley* went straight to the Town of *Osbrook* near *Derby*, where the Hue and Cry coming, *Buck* and *Ryley* were taken, but *Piggen* made his escape, leaving much of the Lace behind him, *Buck* and *Ryley* was then carried before a Justice, and after Examination, were committed to the Goal; and at the Assizes received the reward of their Crimes by hanging. The rest of the Company continuing their former practises, Broke open the House of the Lady *Jane Seroop*, at the Town of *Everston*, four Miles from *Nottingham*, where they took away in money six hundred pounds, missing of three or four thousands, by being one day too forward in their Actions. Upon the dismissing of this Booty, one of the Company and *Bracy* falling at difference

difference ) they had a small Combate with their Swords, the other cutting the Throat of a Mare that *Bracy* rode upon ; which for swiftness and goodness was hardly to be compar'd in *England*, *Bracy* alone committed two more small Robberies ; but the next Designs was upon the Houses of Squire *Gilbert*, at a place called *Locks*, some three miles from *Derby*, and the House of Mr. *Garland* at the Town of *Lenton*, near *Nottingham*, but was prevented by their being apprehended, and afterwards Tryed as followeth ; only *Bracy* who dyed in his Bed : his Wife keeping an Inn of some Note, Northward from *Nottingham* some twelve miles, he receives News of her Death, which obliges him to go home to see his Children, and what Estate his House was left in, upon his being there, one of his Servants betrays him, by informing the next Justice, who raises the Country and besets the house, one of his Sons tells him he heard a noise about the House, which made him look out, and having his Horse in the house, he leads him into a back-yard, and offers to Leap him over a high Pail, but he twice refusing, in the interim one of the Apprehenders shoots and kills his Horse, which made *Bracy* still more desperate, as resolving not to be taken, but being shot with another Bullet, he maintained a Fight with his Sword, till he was mortally wounded, and then the Countrymen left him, he was carried to a Bed in his own House and there dyed. Three more of the Company besets two Gentlemen in *Needwood-Forrest*, bidding them stand and deliver their Money, which they refusing and making resistance, they shot one of them but the other with his Pistol and Sword made a brisk resistance, till one of the Thieves coming behind him, with a Back Rapier Runs him through the Body which Action, they since confessed, being Apprehended for Clipping of Moneys in *Derby*, and now this last Allizes tryed and Executed. Their Confessions of which is as followeth. They had a House in *Derby* at the Sign of the Cock near *St. Michaels Church*, kept by one *Widdow Massey*, where they had their Instruments for Clipping and Filing of Moneys, which they had used for many years, having moneys giving six pounds in the hundred for two Months, of several Men of note in the same Town, who constantly supplied them with Mony, which they Clipped and return'd again. The Widdow and her Son in Law, one *John Baker*, Confessed they had in one Night Clip-  
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ped and finisht one hundred pounds ; this Discovery being thus brought forth, the beforementioned *Piggen* coming up to *London*, was Arrested upon an Action of Debt, and being in hold, was accused as a Robber, but upon the promise of his Pardon, he with one *Gerrat* before named, confessed all the forementioned Robberies, with this Action of Clipping, upon which these Men were Apprehended, and young *Baker* gives the Relation, that one *Sammuel Baker* his Uncle, one *Luke Ouldome*, *Benjamin Ouldham* and one *Nish*, was concerned with them as Workers in Clipping and Filing. returning their Clippings melted into *Bullion*, to a Goldsmith in *London*, who upon the Discovery denied he ever knew any of them. The Widdow and her Son having a Boy about some fifteen years of Age, which was a Servant, that knew many of their Actions, they Murdered him and hid him in a Vault, and afterwards made their escape with one Widdow *Rose* of *Lenton*, near *Nottingham*, who entertained them. *Piggen* and *Baker* received their Pardons, the rest were Executed according to their Sentence. At the place of Execution they seemed very penitent, confessing their Facts as is here related, which is affirmed by several who heard both their Tryals and Confessions.

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